

# MURRAY HIGH SCHOOL

**Year 8**

**Introductory  
Course Selection**

**2024**



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# Introduction

This booklet is designed to give a brief overview of the Introductory Courses offered at Murray High School in Year 8. Students will study two Elective Subjects in Year 8, a different one in each semester. Each course runs for 4 periods per week for 2 terms (1 Semester). All students will complete 2 subjects over the year.

## **Subject Selection Process**

While all courses are offered, for selection, student selections and staffing allocations will determine how many courses can run each semester.

Students will nominate 5 courses in order of preference in case one or more of their chosen courses do not run. Courses with insufficient numbers will not run.

Some subjects have limited vacancies and will fill fast.

Students who fail to make their Subject Selection on time will be placed in classes at the end of the selection process where vacancies exist. These placements will not be negotiable.

Students must submit the signed Subject Approval form and place it in the box at the Main Office by:

**Friday 22 September 2023**

- Be sure to consider the contribution costs of some courses before you make your selections.
- Subject Approval forms will not be accepted without a parental signature.

# ONLINE SUBJECT SELECTION

Students will receive an email with a link to the subject selection page in their school email account. This email will contain an individual WebCode that will need to be entered to log in to the site.

If the email does not arrive;

1. Check your 'junk' or 'spam' filter folder in your email system.
2. Contact the school office.
3. Students can see Mr Brownlaw or Mr Obbink for assistance.

Once logged in, follow the onscreen instructions.

1. Log into <https://my.edval.education/login>
2. Enter the WebCode
3. Hover over "YEAR 8 ELECTIVES 2024" and click the button "Click Here"
4. Select 2 electives in order of preference.
5. Choose 3 extra preferences in case any of your first preferences do not run.

## Important Notes

- Courses are allocated in order of preference – place your most desired course in "Preference 1".

**Subject selections may be printed at the school library free of charge.**

## SUBJECT INFORMATION

<b>Subject</b>
Around the World in 80 Lessons
Bon Appetite
Clay & Mosaics
Drama
Fashionista
Fun with Computers
Make It & Take It – (Wood, Metal, Electronics)
Money Smarts
Music
Our Virtual World
Paddock to Plate (Agriculture)
Photo Media
Speak Chinese

# Around the World in 80 Lessons

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$20.00**

'Around the World in 80 Lessons' will introduce students to a wide range of countries, including Japan, Brazil, Germany and Canada among others. We will look at cities, cultures, landmarks and languages from all corners of the world. It will allow students to gain a further understanding of the world in which they live.

The course provides students with the opportunity to develop a range of critical thinking and research skills which culminate in an excursion to a local restaurant. It provides students with a broader understanding of our world using documentaries, laptops, class discussions and group activities.

## What Students Learn About

- Students will look at a new part of the world in each lesson and examine the unique features of each place.
- Students will learn various key facts about each location such as capital cities, populations, flags and other key information.
- They will also gain an understanding of other cultural elements such as food, languages, music, architecture, history and others that will give students an insight into life in different parts of the world.

## Other information / Special Requirements

There are no eligibility requirements for this course.

Students will need:

Binder Book, A4, ruled, 96 page

# Bon Appetit (Food Technology)

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$35.00**

Bon Appetit is a hands on subject which has been developed for students who have an interest in food preparation, and a desire to learn about a variety of sweet foods which would be appropriate to serve for desserts, morning/afternoon tea, and other special occasions.

## What Students Learn About

The study of Bon Appetit provides students with a knowledge and understanding of a variety of methods of food preparation and cookery, including rubbing in, melt and mix, creaming etc. Students will develop food specific skills and learn to use a variety of technologies such as the oven, microwave, combination oven, mixers and food processors. They will also develop a knowledge and understanding of decorating and serving foods appropriately, developing an awareness of the nutritional effects of over consumption of these foods.

## Other Information/Special Requirements

### What will students learn to do?

Students will learn to select and use appropriate ingredients, methods, and equipment safely and competently in relation to desserts, cakes, slices, biscuits and other sweet foods.

### Special Requirements

Students must have shoes with leather uppers and leather tongues. (Shoes with soft uppers are NOT permitted in the practical workshop due to WH&S regulations).

Students must have a well laundered apron – **available from MHS for \$12.00**

# Clay & Mosaics

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$15.00**

This course gives students the opportunity to produce functional works in clay and to decorate objects with ceramic tiles using the mosaic technique.

## What Students Learn About

Students will gain skills when working with clay to produce objects such as:

- Decorative plates and platters (Slab Technique)
- Bowls (Pinch, coil, press mould techniques)
- Mugs (slab, coil technique)

Students will also use ceramic tiles to decorate bought objects using the mosaic technique such as:

- Wall plaques on 30 X 30cm tiles.
- Terracotta pots
- Other objects from home

## Other Information/Special Requirements

Students will need:

Visual diary, A4 (**available from MHS for \$5.00**) in which to draw and develop their ideas. It will also be used to record glaze colour selections and WH&S information.



# Drama

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$15.00**

This course offers students the opportunity to experience a very practical approach to Drama and acting. The course will be 'fun' and 'hands on' as the students gain experience and skills in the art of performance through improvisation, drama games, creating their own performances, and by attending appropriate live theatre.

### Why study Drama?

Drama is an important tool for preparing students to live and work in a world that is increasingly team oriented. Drama helps students to develop confidence, tolerance, empathy, problem solving skills and a higher order thinking. Drama promotes active learning and creativity which supports and reinforces learning in the more traditional academic areas of the curriculum.

### What Students Learn About

Students will explore a range of imagined and created situations in a collaborative environment. Topics will be as diverse as:

- Improvisation - ability to 'think on their feet' and engage an audience
- Play building - create a performance piece based on their own ideas
- Puppetry - construct their own puppet and put on a puppet show
- Scripted Drama - perform scenes from a play and potentially tour to neighbouring primary schools
- Clowning - create their own clown character and routine.

### Other Information/Special Requirements:

Students will need:  
Binder book, A4, ruled 48 page

# Fashionista

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$20.00**

Fashionista is a practical subject which has been developed for students who have an interest in designing and making clothing and accessories

## What Students Learn About

The course provides students with knowledge and understanding about design and construction using fabric, yarns and fibers.

Students will develop textile specific skills and learn to sew using a variety of technologies such as the over locker, sewing machine and embroidery machine.

Students will also learn many different decorating techniques to use on their practical projects.

## Other Information/Special Requirements

### What will students learn to do?

This course is designed to give hands on experience with a range of tools and give students an introduction to the type of work covered in Textiles in years 9 &10.

### Special Requirements

Students will be required to supply materials for articles to be constructed during the course. **A list of requirements will be given at the start of the course.**

### Assessment:

80% Practical  
20% Test/Assignment

# Fun with Computers

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: NIL**

Students undertaking an introductory course in Fun with Computers will explore a range of activities and practical tasks that they may encounter whilst using computers. Students will also develop a broader understanding of how computers work using binary logic.

## What Students Learn About

Students will develop their confidence in using computers to solve problems and effectively communicate information. Students will gain experience in using a wide variety of software applications.

### Collecting, Organising and Communicating Information

- Creating powerful documents
- Crunching numbers using spreadsheets
- Presentations like a pro
- Communication and file sharing online

### World Wide Web

- Using photoshop to enhance images for online
- Creating basic websites using online tools

### Becoming a You Tube Sensation

- Capturing and editing video for online use
- File quality
- Social and ethical issues around social media

### Computer Games

- Build basic computer games using coding
- Exploring logic using Minecraft Education Edition

## Other Information / Special Requirements

The activities for this course may vary depending on student need and aptitude. Students will be consulted on some of the topics.

# Make It & Take It

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$35.00**

Students undertaking an introductory course in "Make It & Take It" will learn a range of practical skills, primarily developed in the construction of projects.

## What Students Learn About

The exact nature of the learning will vary depending on whether students are timetabled in a woodwork or metalwork room. Projects could be based on:

- Wood
- Metal
- Electronics
- Engineering

or a combination of these.

## Other Information/Special Requirements

The course is designed to give hands on experience with a range of tools and give students an introduction to the type of work covered in Technics in Years 9 & 10. (However, it is **not** a prerequisite for the study of Technics in Years 9 & 10).

### **Assessment:**

80% Practical

20% Test/Assignment

### **Special Requirements:**

Navy Apron - **available from MHS for \$12.00**

Leather Shoes (full leather uppers)

# Money Smarts

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: NIL**

Money Smarts focuses on the basics of money: how to make it, how to save it, how to spend it and how to invest it. Students will be introduced to the world of buying and selling. It will allow students to gain a greater understanding and develop skills on how to interact within the consumer environment while making wise commercial choices that will assist them in having a secure future. This course provides students with the opportunity to be a team player, problem solver and an informed and responsible consumer in the modern world of commerce.

## What Students Learn About

In this course students will study:

- **How to make money** – Introduction to employment and work, running your own business or developing a side hustle
- **How to save money** — Buying, selling and saving as an individual or group
- **How to spend money** — Understanding how to be a smart consumer. There will also be a focus on major purchases like what you'll need to run a household or purchase a car
- **How to invest money** — A basic introduction into the world of financial markets. Think shares, crypto and other investment options.

## Other Information/Special Requirements

There are no eligibility requirements for this course.

Students will need:

Binder Book, A4, ruled, 96 page

Casio Scientific Calculator FX82AUPL2ND - **available from MHS (5 year warranty) for \$31.00.**

# Music

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: NIL**

The year 8 elective course focuses on the practises of contemporary musicians, developing skills in band performance, song creation using digital software and music production. The purpose of the course is to develop teamwork, memorisation, reasoning and musical expertise in interested students.

## What Students Learn About

Students will learn to perform, write, and respond to music in a variety of contemporary styles including rock, pop, acoustic and hip hop. This course encourages students to further develop performance skills across a variety of band instruments including electric drums, keyboard, electric guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, and vocals.

Practical activities are a significant proportion (over 85%) of each lesson with theory and technology integrated into these.

## Other Information /Special Requirements

Private instrument lessons are not required to successfully complete this course.

# Our Virtual World

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: NIL**

Virtual reality (VR) completely immerses learners in alternative digital worlds. Content is accessed through VR headsets, often combined with headphones and hand controllers that allow the learner to navigate their way around their virtual space.

Using virtual reality, augmented reality and artificial intelligence students will immerse themselves within learning, setting themselves up for success.

Students will engage with Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Science, the Arts, Technologies, English, Health and Physical Education, and Language study through the virtual world before creating their own 3D objects, bringing these objects to life with characters they design to tell a story of the future world.

## What Students Learn About

Exploring key focus areas within the new Computing Technology 7-10 syllabus students will engage with:

- Enterprise information systems: Designing for user experience
- Software development: Creating games and simulations

Core learning consists of:

- thinking skills
- social and cultural awareness
- technical knowledge and skills
- project management.

## Other Information/Special Requirements

Students will be assessed on the development of a range of soft skills typically refer to as interpersonal qualities and abilities that can be applied in most workplaces.

They generally relate to:

- adaptability and resilience
- teamwork and collaboration
- creativity and innovation
- critical thinking and problem solving
- communication and interpersonal skills.

Visual diary, A4 (**available from MHS for \$5.00**)

# Paddock to Plate

## Course Outline

**Course Contribution: \$15.00**

Year 8 Paddock to Plate is an introductory course to Agriculture. This course is designed to give students basic theoretical and practical insight into Agriculture in Australia. The emphasis is on hands on activities using the paddock to plate model.

## What Students Learn About

What is Agriculture?

- The historical development both in Australia and the world,
- The importance to our economy,
- The main agricultural products in Australia, e.g. Merino sheep, prime lambs, cattle, vegetables, and wheat.
- Safety and dangers on farms.
- Growing vegetables using no dig garden techniques

## Other Information /Special Requirements

Practical work will include:

- Growing and maintaining a vegetable garden
- Working with the school's prime lamb flock
- Helping maintain the schools agricultural plot through fertilising, weeding and sowing, etc
- Using their produce to cook up a range of simple meals.

Students will need:

Binder Book, A4, ruled, 96 page.



<b>Photo Media</b>	
<b>Course Outline</b>	<b>Course Contribution: \$15.00</b>
<p>This course gives the students the opportunity to work with computer graphics and digital video programs.</p>	
<b>What Students Learn About</b>	
<p>Students will gain practical skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Editing photos using Adobe Photoshop</li><li>• Creating animations and using editing sequence software.</li></ul>	
<b>Other Information/Special Requirements</b>	
<p><b>Special Requirements</b></p> <p>Students will need: Display folder, A4, 20 pocket in which to keep provided instruction sheets.</p>	

## 说中文 (Shuō zhōngwén) Speak Chinese

### Course Outline

**Course Contribution: NIL**

The main focus of this course is developing your listening and speaking skills through the use of Chinese film and music. We will learn to write some key new terms and structures, but mainly we will listen to pop songs and watch some current TV shows and movies to build our listening skills. Then we will learn to ask and express our opinions about what we enjoy and why and we will learn a little about some of the more popular stars in China today.

The main focus of the course is getting you using Chinese (Mandarin) by introducing you to contemporary Chinese music and film.

### What Students Learn About

Topics studied will include:

- Chinese films and TV shows,
- C-Pop,
- Famous Chinese people and where they come from.

Assessment is based on course work through the year and class-based projects/assessment tasks.

### Other Information/Special Requirements

There are no eligibility requirements for this course

Students will need:

Binder book, A4, ruled, 128 page